

Sincerely,

denise mcguire  
16b turle road  
london, n4 3lz  
United Kingdom

**From:** denise.mcguire@bt.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 22, 2003 12:24 PM  
**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

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I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

The stakes for citizens and the nation are enormous. More information, not less, about proposed changes would best serve the public interest. Indeed, we hope the Commission would do everything in its power to keep the rulemaking process as open and inclusive as possible.

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**From:** Kathleen Boyd  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 22, 2003 2:59 PM  
**Subject:** Preserve Diversity and Media Ownership Limits - DO NOT Remove Remaining Regulatory Limits on Corporations

Kathleen Boyd  
87 Ira Light St. Apt. C  
Steilacoom, WA 98388-1660

April 22, 2003

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St., SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Commissioner Abernathy:

The FCC must NOT further weaken the rules that help preserve competition and diversity among the owners of American media.

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. In its goals to promote competition, diversity and localism in today's media market, I strongly believe that the FCC should retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of already huge companies in the broadcast industry.

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I do not believe that the studies commissioned by the FCC accurately demonstrate the negative affects media deregulation and consolidation have had on media diversity. While there may be indeed be more sources of media than ever before, the spectrum of views presented have become more limited.

The right to carry on informed debate and discussion of current events is part of the founding philosophy of our nation. Our forefathers believed that democracy was best served by a diverse marketplace of ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge, our ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints will be compromised.

The public interest will best be served by preserving media ownership rules in question in this proceeding.

In addition to the official hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA, I strongly urge the FCC to hold additional hearings elsewhere around the nation to solicit the widest possible participation from the public which will be the most directly affected by the outcomes of these decisions. I think it is important for the FCC to not only consider the points of view of those with a financial interest in this issue, but also those with a social or civic interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is incumbent on the Commission to take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

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**From:** William Boyd  
**To:** Mike Powell  
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**From:** Marstonmj@aol.com  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Michael Copps, Mike Powell  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 22, 2003 3:08 PM  
**Subject:** Media ownership

I would like to comment on the federal plan to let major media own more stations and newspapers in the same market. I believe that the previous deregulation and the resulting lack of diversity of media ownership we have already experienced has limited political debate in the United States. The very lack of current coverage of media deregulation in the major media is evidence enough of how dangerous this trend is. I feel very strongly that the ownership of media and distribution of news by a small number of large corporations undermines democracy in America.

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Michael Marston

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**From:** William J. Makofske  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Mike Powell  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 22, 2003 3:41 PM  
**Subject:** Deregulation of Ownership

I am aware of the vote scheduled for June 2 on further deregulation of broadcasting ownership. If you vote to deregulate further this will do enormous damage to our already beleaguered democracy, putting control of information dissemination into the hands of a few. Surely diversity in the media is needed to avoid a one-sided view of issues.

Chairman Powell, I urge you to put off this vote for at least 12 months so the issue can be studied, so the public can be informed. There has been little coverage of this issue in the media, and people have been understandably preoccupied with the war in Iraq. We need much more study and discussion of this important issue before the policy is changed.

If this deregulation goes through we will see greater voter apathy, a less informed public (scary considering how ill informed people are already) and this will be bad for the US and for the world. Please do not do this.

Thank you.

Mary Makofske



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Mary Makofske

**From:** bradimante@prodigy.net  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 22, 2003 5:21 PM  
**Subject:** Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

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11-45 45th Ave  
NY, New York 11101

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**From:** Candy Wilson  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 22, 2003 5:43 PM  
**Subject:** media conglomeration/breakup of media giants

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Regarding the upcoming FCC vote, be advised that further consolidation of the media in the false name of "deregulation" must be halted and reversed.

Currently, TV and radio news in the hands of a handful of profit-driven corporations has undermined our democracy more than any other modern force except the high cost of broadcast commercials during elections. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide crucial unbiased information to the public about most public issues, most notably the drive to war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to break up the media conglomerates, to open the spectrum to a wide diversity of organizations and independent journalists, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine.

Mr. Chairman, you are a black man who has risen from the roots of bigotry, hatred, lynchings, brutality, discrimination, and considered, under the Constitutional, to originally have been considered "chattel." Why have you taken up the reins of your oppressors to oppress others. Is this your way of pledging an allegiance to those in whose shadow you continue to feel inferior, as does your father? Republican you may be but beneath that covering must lie a conscience. Please exercise it. Please.

**COPY OF LETTER SENT TO NEWS OUTLETS:**

Sir:

With all due respect, I would like to be given reports of actual events, supported by credible facts and eyewitness accounts, from your station, as opposed to personal views and comments. What I now receive from your station's coverage of news are lies, misconceptions, and misinformation, to be perfectly honest. The reports are unbalanced and lack credibility. It is embarrassing to say the least. Following are a few suggestions which I hope you will take to heart.

**IRAQI CIVILIANS:** Do not be afraid to embed your reporters in strategic areas, i.e., hospitals, neighborhoods, and businesses so there can be full, complete and truthful coverage of 1) the daily lives of Iraqi people, (2) the casualties resulting from the "shock and awe" attack on the civilians, especially the old, frail, sick, women and the children, (3) the cumulative impact of the depleted uranium bombs dropped during the Gulf "War" on the health of the children, in particular and what this latest barrage of depleted uranium bombs will do to the environment, (4) a reporting of and news photos of the associated health problems directly caused by the dropping, during the Gulf War, of depleted uranium bombs resulting in birth defects, congenital malformations, children born without brains, with one eye, dying from malnutrition, etc., (4) civilian resistance to this country's occupation, and (4) an honest count of the number of deaths to date (both of our military and the Iraqi people).

**FOLLOW THE MONEY:** It has now been established that there is profiteering by US companies and individuals who promoted this war and/or contributed heavily to this administration during the elections, both before, during and after same.

**THE HOME FRONT:** It is imperative that there be daily reporting of the devastating impact of what has become a huge federal deficit and the contributing factor of tax cuts. There should be an in-depth and honest coverage of the devastating impact of the huge federal budget cuts in education, healthcare, veterans' benefits, childcare, poverty relief and transportation, to name but a few. The impact of privatization on citizen's lives, policies, and the society as a whole.

ON-GOING INVESTIGATIONS: Follow the trail of money as it shifts to individuals, businesses and corporations. Link those who have profited and who will yet profit handsomely with respect to rebuilding Iraq, formulating policies, ghost-writing laws, controlling what legislation comes to the floor for votes, and all other cases connected thereto.

Lest you need reminding that the airways belong to the people, it is still your job to inform the American people with facts, and honest reporting -- not commentaries, personal agendas, and ideologies of your own. Morality and ethics are still the name of the game and thus far, you have been striking out.

It is a very, very sad time for what once was a nation striving to become a democratic beacon to itself and to the world. Now, with the help and collusion of your news station, that dream is all but dead.

torilookstwine@earthlink.net  
Why Wait? Move to EarthLink.

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

**From:** Eduardo Waller  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 22, 2003 6:59 PM  
**Subject:** Preserve Diversity and Media Ownership Limits - DO NOT Remove Remaining Regulatory Limits on Corporations

Eduardo Waller  
777 Valencia Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110

April 22, 2003

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Federal Communications Commission  
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